

As agreed during the telephone interview, the combination of references fails to disclose or suggest a control portion that changes an amount of electric power consumed by the load portion to increase or decrease consumption after the control portion determines that the supply electric power set value is greater than or less than the actual supply electric power value, as recited in claim 1.

Hunt, which discusses equilibrium at paragraphs [0039] and [0047], uses an HVEC controller 38 to control the battery 32 when there is an HVEC error (which is the difference between a measured current ( $I_{HVEC}$ ) and a requested current ( $I_{REQ}$ )). It would not have been obvious to modify Hunt based on Nonobe because Nonobe does not attempt to achieve equilibrium. Nonobe instead controls the system (which includes limiting power consumed by the motor 34) if the charge of the battery 30 is too low (col. 11, line 56 - col. 12, line 7), which should not occur in Hunt. Because of the differences in how the systems operate, the combination of Hunt and Nonobe fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of claim 15.

Ohkubo, which is used to suggest other features, fails to overcome the deficiencies of Hunt and Nonobe.

As should be obvious, the combination of references fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of independent claims 19, 23, 27, 31 and 32 for reasons similar to independent claim 15. The dependent claims are allowable based on their dependence from one of the independent claims and for the additional features that they recite. It is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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